



**Recreation & Parks
Department Report
June 2024**

- Thirteen groups used the Hughes Center during the month of May for a total of 197 hours. Events included four birthday parties, U.S. Navy training and two Premier High School meetings.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in May. Minutes from previous meetings are available for viewing at www.russellvillearkansas.org.
- The department had 36 pavilion rentals in the city parks and 56 practice field reservations for Shiloh Park, Pleasant View Park and Vick Field in May.
- In safety matters, all AEDS, eyewash stations and the fire extinguishers in all vehicles, heavy equipment and park buildings were inspected in May.
- The Russellville Youth Baseball Association hosted one tournament at M.J. Hickey Park with 31 teams participating.
- Tournaments at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park included two softball tournaments with 65 teams participating. With the tournaments there and at M.J. Hickey Park, a total of 96 teams visited Russellville in the month of May.
- The splash pad did not open on Memorial Day weekend due to a circuit board being struck by lightning during the off season. The new circuit board has been installed along with a new activation button, and the splash opened on May 31. It is open daily from 10:00am to 8:00pm.
- M.J. Hickey Pool opened on May 25 to a large crowd. The pool is open daily from 12:30pm to 6:00pm. Russellville High School has been taking advantage of the 50 meter pool with weekly practices. The Boys and Girls Club's swim team will begin practicing soon.
- The soccer field lighting project on Field 8 at the Russellville Soccer Complex has begun. Construction is expected to last a couple of months. The new LED lights will give soccer teams the ability to practice longer and extend play at tournaments.
- The fourth annual chainsaw competition was held at Shiloh Park on the first weekend in May. The event had chainsaw artists from all over the country displaying their carvings and competing in carving competitions. First place went to Joe Srholez from Colorado, the second place winner was James Denkins from Michigan and the third place winner was Ken Brown from Colorado.
- The Department is seeking applicants to serve as a parks commissioner. The commission meets monthly and serves as an advisory board. Resumes are being accepted at City Hall or the Hughes Community Center.